



## Remember Your Crucial Role

Amidst the reality of COVID-19, our BC Page team strived to get the Spring Edition of the BC Page out to our membership on time and full of our regular segments. We wanted to provide a moment of regularity into your irregular day. I had this vision of leaving anything Pandemic related out of the newsletter to provide reprieve from an onslaught of coverage in the media, on social media, during daily staff huddles, and every other avenue imaginable. That vision didn't come to fruition as you can see, front page and I've already said COVID-19 and Pandemic.... I had the realisation that our health authorities and our partner agencies like BCCDC, NCCEH, and EOCP, are all collectively working towards a common goal. A goal that we work towards every day: protect public health. We're in our element here and we need to highlight every piece of information and expertise that we're all offering.

When this whole thing started, I felt awkward thinking of myself as an essential worker in terms of a pandemic. I was stuck seeing doctors and nurses as our essential workers and as the only line of defense. It didn't take long to snap out of it and realise that this battle was heavily, dare I say almost entirely, contingent on prevention. We Environmental Public Health Professionals are trained in prevention, skilled in communicating infection control measures, and aptly versatile to keep up with the EVER changing direction of COVID-19. It also didn't take long to see the outpouring of commendation for our colleagues. Richard Taki, of Vancouver Coastal Health, wrote to his staff "You have all been exceptional as Public Health Professionals and so positive in your approach to a major global crisis. In more ways than one, you have proven to be true leaders in public health protection." Cole Diplock, of Island Health, was quoted in a published recognition piece: "What stands out has been the ability of the group to organize and implement the needed tasks in a short period of time and come together as a team." In a letter to Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, Casey Neathway, BC Branch President and Kari Engele-Carter, National President stated "While the public celebrates outwardly the successes of our allied health partners, our members work tirelessly in the background to flatten the curve, and often put their own health at risk to protect that of others." In reference to the public health staff, Dr. Doug Cochrane, Chair of the Interior Health Board of Directors, wrote: "Their commitment and leadership inspires us to continue in every way, calmly and with kindness, until this virus is no longer a threat." Perhaps my heart has swelled with pride a few times.

Quiet, modest, Environmental Public Health Professionals, humbly fighting the good fight. Congratulations to you all. For every contact you trace, every compliance check you complete, and every task you take on, remember your crucial role in flattening the curve. . .

Stacey Sowa, Editor

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE. . .

- 7 News from BCIT
- 10 Update from EOCP
- 12-13 Baby Announcements

## Branch Update

What a change in the world since our last BC Page newsletter was released! I'm certain that each of you has seen shifts not only in your personal lives, but also in the work that you're doing on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. You may have seen the letter from National President Kari Engele-Carter recognizing the work that EHOs across the country are doing, and I'd like to echo that: your health protection and contact tracing work ensure, as much as any curve-flattening approach, that our healthcare system is able to weather this storm.

CIPHI is pleased to be working nationally to improve the recognition of environmental health professionals, and you'll likely start seeing some fruits of this labour imminently. This was work that the National Executive Council was undertaking anyway, and the pandemic and lack of understanding of our members' role in the response to it has confirmed for us that we're moving in the right direction! I hope that each of you recognizes that your quiet competence and "get it done" approach to work is appreciated by leadership and decision-makers, even if it doesn't get the same public and media attention as the work of some other groups.

COVID-19 has also put a slight damper in a number of "normal" CIPHI activities, as well as our strategic plan for the year. Things like practicum placements and BOC exams that we take for granted are now being thought about in a different light. Decisions are soon to be made about what format the 2020 AEC might take. And our proposed educational webinar series (which we're ready to implement!) needs to be given some thought in terms of timing, and how members might find the opportunity and time to focus on anything other than pandemic response. Fortunately, we (as an organization and as a world) are now very well placed for a distance-based approach to learning!

As I write this, communities are already facing impacts of wildfires and flooding at the same time they're responding to COVID-19, and EHOs are looking at creative ways to respond to multiple emergencies simultaneously. It's safe to say that 2020 will be a year like none other, and environmental public health professionals will be a large part of the reason that people are safe and healthy.

I think Dr. Bonnie Henry's words are the best guide for us moving forward: "be calm, be kind, be safe".

Yours Truly,



Casey Neathway  
BC Branch – President



Hello CIPHI members and environmental health professionals alike! Welcome back again to Giardia's Corner with me, Giardia! I hope you are all finding yourselves healthy and reasonably settled into our odd, temporary norm. Our lives have been altered in a way that few could have anticipated a few months ago. We won't talk about the elephant in the room since you are hearing and seeing it enough. The revamp of Giardia's Corner is a little behind as we've been busy with that elephant in the room....lucky for us, we were able to hook Branch Historian, Tim Roark in for a classic Giardia Interview. Take a read!



Tim Roark —BC Branch Historian

**Q1: What school did you go to for the ENVH program? What year did you graduate?**

A1: I attended the Public Health Inspection program at Ryerson, graduated in 1967 and received my CPHI(C) that fall.

**Q2: Where have you worked and what roles have you been in throughout your career?**

A2: I started my career as a PHI at the Northwestern Health Unit in Ontario for 2 years with the first year in my hometown of Kenora and the 2nd year in the town of Dryden. In July 1969, I moved to BC and got the "plum" position of PHI in the White Rock office of Boundary Health Unit. Being the low man on the provincial seniority list and single, in 1971 I was transferred to Chilliwack in the Upper Fraser Valley HU. In 1973, I transferred back to the Ladner office of BHU until 1979 when I moved to Maple Ridge as the new Chief PHI for the Central Fraser Valley Health Unit. In 1990, my position was changed to Program Manager for Environmental Health with the inclusion of the Community Care Licencing Program for the CFVHU. The amalgamation of health units in BC started in 1995 with the CFVHU being the first to be split up into 3 parts. Staff in Maple Ridge joined the Simon Fraser Health Unit and I continued in Maple Ridge now as a Deputy Chief EHO for the Simon Fraser Health Unit. In 1997 "regionalization" arrived from above and SFHU became a small part of the Simon Fraser Health Region. In 1998, I moved to Coquitlam as part of the new "regional" management team. Soon it was time for reorganization again and we became part of the very large Fraser Health Authority. Shortly thereafter I also took on the Freedom of Information Program for the EH program across the FHA. I retired in 2004 after 37 years in Environmental Health in BC and Ontario.

After a short time in retirement I was hired as a Consultant by the Legal Department of FHA to assist with a large backlog of Freedom of Information applications relating to all departments of the FHA. It was quite rewarding financially as I replaced a lawyer until they could find a new lawyer to handle the many FOI requests. After another short period of retirement I was hired by Health Canada for 6 months to assist with inspections of the BC Ferries and the Vancouver International Airport in Richmond. Both these positions were most interesting and enjoyable.

In 2005, I created Tim Roark & Associates, Environmental Health Consultants and soon took on the challenging task as Project Manager and Author of an **Emergency Response Field Manual for Environmental Health Officers and Health Protection Specialists** for the Capital Health Region. Additional copies were purchased by most health agencies in BC as well Emergency Preparedness BC and several health units in Ontario. Health Canada purchased copies in English and then had the manual translated into French for use by their staff in the Province

...Continued on Page 4



of Quebec. This was a most interesting and rewarding project. One would think it was time for me to really retire but I was not quite ready when an offer arrived in 2007 from the BC Food Processors Association to join them as one of three Environmental Health Consultants to assist them and their members across BC to implement new changes to the BC Meat Inspection Act. Finally after 42 years in various positions from a field inspector to a program manager and consultant and having worked for local, regional, provincial and federal health agencies, I retired in 2009.

**Q3: How have you seen the focus of Environmental Public Health change over the years?**

A3: There have been several changes including a move towards increased specialization, greater complexity in the issues requiring resolution and a move to use of electronic aids. In addition, the move away from PHIs involvement in on-site sewage disposal and land development without any adequate auditing process to ensure the new process is operating as projected was a major change.

I predict we will be moving back away from the small scale, looking at individual restaurants, to the large scale again. Focus on environmental impact on our lives.

**Q4: What is one of the most memorable moments or situations in your career so far?**

A4: The two most memorable situations in my career are:

Having the opportunity throughout my career to participate in and contribute to CIPHI in various positions including BC Branch President, National President, a Founding Member & Trustee of the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada, BC Branch & National Historian, Chairman of the BC Branch Board of Registration, BDC Examiner, a Contributing Editor to the EHR as well as Editor and Contributing Editor of the BC Page.

Being appointed by the Provincial Health Officer to chair the committee that prepared the report which provided direction to handle drinking water quality issues and systems in BC in the future including drafting the initial proposed Safe Drinking Water Regulation under the Public Health Act of BC.

**Q5: As an EHO/PHI, one of your primary roles is to look for problems or issues; how have you stayed positive?**

A5: Actually staying positive was easy as the vast majority of the public, officials in agencies we dealt with and politicians recognized the importance of the public health issues and were cooperative and supportive. Every day the work was varied, interesting and often challenging and thus was almost always very enjoyable and rewarding.

**Q6: On a scale of Educator to Enforcer, where would you place your health inspector style?**

A6: I have always tried to have a balanced approach. I believed in achieving our goals through discussion and education. Unfortunately, however, there were occasions when illegal situations arose and the only way to protect the health of the public and obtain a satisfactory resolution was through some form of enforcement action such as laying a charge or seeking an injunction.

**Q7: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013 and mandatory membership was implemented in January of 2017, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI' BC Branch?**

A7: I believe that we actually have two large issues which we will need to deal with in the next few years. First, I do not feel that mandatory membership is a given and we need to do a lot more to encourage new graduates, non-members and colleagues moving to BC to join CIPHI. Waiting for a legal decision to support our position is very risky. Second, we as the BC Branch and as an association have virtually no profile with the public. We really need to change that so the public recognizes we have expertise in several areas. We should be taking a leadership role in informing the public about environmental health issues. For example, cautioning citizens about issues such as cooking the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, summer picnics and drinking safe water when camping plus taking care of mould growth in the home, etc. etc.

# BC Branch Executive Update

The CIPHI BC Branch has two exciting opportunities on the Executive Committee, now open for nominations. Presently the roles of President Elect and one Councilor position are vacant; this presents us with a great opportunity to welcome new members to the Executive to share their thoughts and ideas, and lead the development of the Branch.

## The roles of the President Elect (2 year term) include:

- Acting as the presiding officer for Executive Council meetings
- Representing the Branch at the National Executive Council when the President is not available
- Preparing meeting agendas (with input from the Executive and Branch members)
- Providing Branch updates for the BC Page (twice a year)
- Learning the duties of the Branch President in preparation of assuming the role

## The roles of the Councilor (1 year term) include:

- Participating in monthly Branch meetings
- Contribute to Branch planning for activities, events, and Member support and recognition
- Advance Branch activities through participation on sub-committees

If either of these positions are of interest to you, we welcome your nomination form and look forward to seeing you at the AGM! If you have additional questions about either role, please contact [info@ciphi.bc.ca](mailto:info@ciphi.bc.ca).

## 2020 BC Branch Membership Drive



Gordon Stewart (left) of Fraser Health was one of the winners of the 2020 BC Branch Membership Drive. Gordon opted for a free 2021 Membership.

Congratulations!

Simon Jiang of Vancouver Coastal Health was also a winner. With COVID looming over the National AEC, Simon is still considering his prize options.

Congratulations!





Congratulations to Adora Kwong who was the most recent recipient of the John A. Stringer Award.

Keep up to date on the latest news at the BC Branch website:

[www.ciphi.bc.ca](http://www.ciphi.bc.ca)

The page also contains information on membership, conferences, career opportunities, documents, and much more. Check it out regularly.

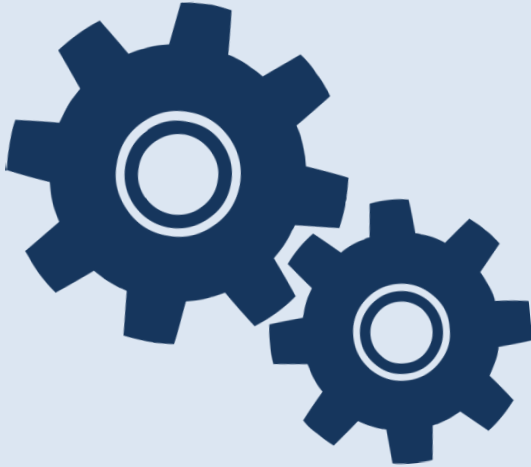
Did you know the BC Branch is on Facebook and Twitter?



Click on the icon to find the BC Branch on Facebook and *Like* the page.



Click on the icon and *Follow* the BC Branch on Twitter.



**YOU KNOW WHAT  
REALLY GRINDS MY  
GEARS . . .**

“When someone leaves an urgent voicemail with absolutely no details while also demanding a call back. ”

Please submit your “heard it a thousand time before one-liners” that you hear in the field over and over to [bcpageeditor@ciphi.bc.ca](mailto:bcpageeditor@ciphi.bc.ca). Let’s all share in the hilariously annoying joys of our environmental public health experiences.

## A Cloudy Future- Anti-Vaping Health Promotion Project, BCIT

As second year Environmental Health students at BCIT, we got an opportunity last September to examine the role of an Environmental Health Officer in health education & promotion. In particular, in affecting behavioral changes in a specific target audience via health education and advocacy. Our team collaborated together to conduct background research, literature review, stakeholder analysis, SWOT analysis etc. and ultimately decided to design and present an educational program around Vaping; our primary goal of helping achieve a vaping-free lifestyle in our target audience of young students aged 11-25 years old.

It took more than 50 years to realize the vast amounts of negative health effects associated with smoking, how long will it take to realize the same association with vaping? Over the past few years, vaping has quickly become the newest trend among children, youths and young adults. This trend is particularly concerning in high-school and college-aged students. Hospitalization for vaping-related pneumonia cases are on the rise. As a result, we decided to focus the implementation strategies of our Health Promotion Project on reducing the number of young vapers, specifically those aged from 11-25 years old.

Our Project proposes three strategies to discourage the use of vaping products in this age group. The first strategy focuses on releasing short anti-vaping advertisements on popular youth social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat. The objective of this strategy is to reach a high proportion of users within our target demographics. To implement this strategy, we produced two fifteen second anti-vaping ads (“Don't be a Guinea Pig” & “There's No Cake in Vape”) to run on the media platforms. The second strategy focuses on implementing a Lesson Plan on the “Health Affects of Vaping” in secondary schools. The objective of this strategy is to encourage all secondary schools in BC to ultimately incorporate this lesson plan in their curriculum. To implement this strategy, we created a detailed lesson plan with instructions and an example slide deck for the trainers. The third and final strategy focuses on the retail aspect of vaping. The objective of this strategy is to have a standardized plain vaping product packaging in order to help discourage new users and help combat the notion that “vaping is cool and trendy”. To implement this strategy, we created a plain brown standardized packaging as an illustration for retail operators and regulators.

Finally, as part of the project, we also created various evaluation strategies to determine the impact of our three strategies on our target audience. The evaluation strategies range all the way from self-administered surveys to conducting pre & post-assessment tests with the focus groups to monitoring vaping product sales with participating retail stress to name a few.

Ultimately, our project aims to promote health and wellness in students aged 11-25 years old by helping them achieve a vape-free lifestyle via promotion of anti-vaping advertisements, lesson plans and the use of standardized plain packaging. Utilization of our health promotion strategy will help prevent vaping from becoming a public health crisis and ultimately reduce the burden on our health care system in the process.

- Eric Yam, Dianna Vuu, James Chhay, Mahdiyeh Dabestani, Matt Latter, & Sarina Cho





National Collaborating Centre  
for Environmental Health

Centre de collaboration nationale  
en santé environnementale

## COVID-19 pandemic: NCCEH supporting Environmental Public Health

Canada's experience with SARS in 2003 left behind an indelible mark and lessons learned for public health. These were summarized in a 234-page report ([Learning from SARS: Renewal of Public Health in Canada](#)) published by the federal government in 2004. Amongst 75 recommendations, one was the need for renewal and strengthening of public health in Canada through the creation of a national organization to monitor public health. Another identified need was to enable the use of public health research in day-to-day practices and in policy decisions. In 2005 this gave rise to the creation of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and the [six National Collaborating Centres \(NCCs\)](#): [Determinants of Health](#), [Environmental Health](#), [Indigenous Health](#), [Infectious Diseases](#), [Healthy Public Policy](#), and [Methods and Tools](#). Each NCC specializes in their respective public health domain. We strive to support and respond to the needs of public health with high-quality evidence and knowledge that is accessible, understandable and usable, and to foster collaboration among diverse stakeholders.

In 2020 we are now in a global pandemic involving a novel coronavirus. The need for knowledge translation (KT) of scientific evidence for decision making has never been greater. Our host organization, the BC Centre for Disease Control of the Provincial Health Services Authority operates the Emergency Operating Centre, a "command centre" of BC's COVID-19 response in support of our BC Chief Public Health Officer and BC Health Authorities. Our BCCDC colleagues serve in posts ranging from lab testing, delineating current [epidemiology](#) of COVID-19 in BC using modelling data, generating guidelines, to providing information both [online](#) and by telephone. This makes an excellent partnership for our two organizations. We draw from and share information to augment each other's work while we leverage pan-Canada partnerships and working groups.

Work at the NCCEH has also changed from our normal pattern of producing KT products across the spectrum of EH topics. In compliance with strong recommendations from public health to work from home as one of the measures to contain and slow the spread of COVID-19, our team began remote work in mid-March without much prior preparation. Our FY2020-21 workplan that would have begun on April 1 was diverted toward KT work on continuously emerging information about the SARS-CoV-2 virus. There was an urgency to accelerate our work in order to support environmental public health workforce in and outside of British Columbia.

Since March 31, 2020 the NCCEH produced over 12 documents and curated a topical listing of quality external resources into a new [Environmental Health Resources for the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

This topic page houses our products that range from guidance documents, fact sheets, and posters with synthesized available scientific evidence on topic such as:

- what [we know about](#) the SARS-CoV-2 virus in a short evidence brief;
- the [use of masks](#) as a control measure to prevent SARS-CoV-2 transmission;
- guidance on risks and preventive measures for individuals living in [multi-unit residential buildings](#);
- [do's and don'ts of using shared laundry facility](#);
- [considerations for use of outdoor recreational spaces](#);
- [use of disinfectants and sanitizers in food premises](#);
- [reducing COVID-19 transmission through cleaning and disinfection of household surfaces](#);
- [cautions regarding use of hand sanitizers](#);
- monthly COVID-19 [research scans](#) on COVID-19 and environmental health.

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## COVID-19 pandemic: NCCEH supporting Environmental Public Health... CONTINUED...

Our [blog](#) also features posts that focus on COVID-19 and [health equity considerations](#) in the time of the pandemic, and points to thinking ahead to [summer, wildfire smoke](#) and [air quality](#) in general.

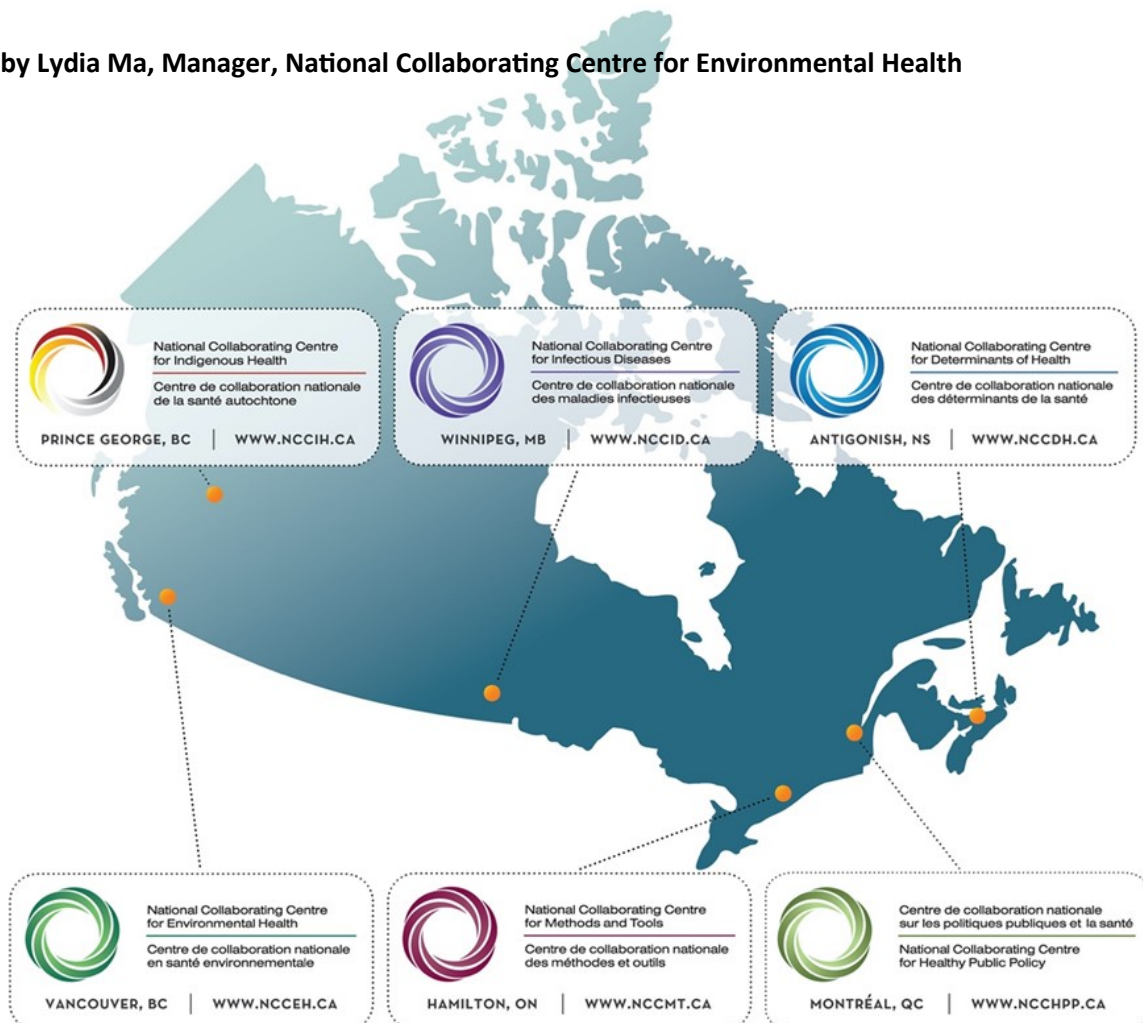
While the internet offers a quick and easy way to gather information, we offer environmental public health professionals this page as a go-to resource. Users can also find COVID-19 KT products of our sister NCCs, including: a repository of [health equity-related](#) resources (NCCDH); a series of infectious diseases [podcasts](#) for public health professionals and health care practitioners (NCCID), including an episode on First National communities (NCCIH); [public health ethics](#) and COVID-19 (NCCHPP); and, a collection of searchable [rapid COVID-19 research evidence reviews](#) that are completed or in progress (NCCMT). We will continue to update the above with more NCCEH knowledge products and curated resources from other NCCs and those of external agencies and organizations from Canada, US and elsewhere.

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves and public health measures are implemented/adapted to changing conditions, NCCEH will carry out more KT work. In the coming weeks Canada, like many countries around the world, are cautiously considering the reopening of schools, restaurants and other businesses. There is simply no precedence and no “playbook” to follow. There will be a continuous need for evidence to inform and support the work of practitioners and decision-makers to guide the reopening in the safest and most health-protecting manner. And with it, the need to synthesize a quickly proliferating body of scientific research findings, to make it understandable and accessible for practice and policy making. That is the role of NCCEH and other NCCs as we navigate uncertainties and face new challenges together.

If you have a practice-related question or know of excellent COVID-19 related resources, please contact us ([contact@ncceh.ca](mailto:contact@ncceh.ca)). If you are not on our mailing list, please consider [signing up](#) in order to receive our communications regarding new products.

Submitted by Lydia Ma, Manager, National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health

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**What is your favourite indoor/outdoor activity?**

Fishing and Boating

**If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?**

Learn to play the piano.

**If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would you meet?**

Meet Prime Minister Churchill of England who was one of the most interesting world leaders.

**If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?**

Donate a portion to several important charities in BC such as Salvation Army, Union Gospel Mission and the Council of Food Banks of BC and then go on an extended world vacation.

**WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:**

**1. Go to a play or a musical?**

Go to a musical (music is so uplifting)

**2. Win the lottery or find your perfect job?**

Win the lottery (determine your own future/destiny).

**3. Visit Europe or Mexico?**

Visit Europe (so much to see in such a small area)

**4. Travel by sailboat or cruise ship?**

Travel on a cruise ship (after COVID-19)

**Update from EOCP**

**Environmental Facilities: Pre-Classification, Classification and Re-Classification**

*Jenni Green, P.Eng*

*EOCP Technical Expert*

The Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP) is responsible for classifying facilities in BC and Yukon. There are six types of facilities that can be classified:

- Water Treatment
- Water Distribution
- Wastewater Treatment
- Wastewater Collection
- Small Water
- Small Wastewater

The EOCP is named in provincial legislation under both the Drinking Water Protection Regulation (DWPR) and the Municipal Wastewater Regulation (MWR). Both of these regulations require that water and wastewater facilities be classified by the EOCP.

**What is a Facility Classification?**

Facility classification is the assessment of an environmental facility’s complexity and operating conditions. The classification assigned to a facility determines the level of training required for the certified operators at the facility. Facility classification is completed by the chief operator or person in charge of a facility and submitted to the EOCP for review. The process involves completing a questionnaire on all aspects of the facilities infrastructure and operational influencers and providing a flow schematic all the process.

**What is a Re-Classification?**

In accordance with best practices from the Canadian Water and Wastewater Operators Certification Committee, facilities need to be re-classified following any major process change, or every 5 years, whichever occurs first. All facility classifications carry a 5-year validity, and owners need to renew and update their classifications on a 5-year cycle. This ensures that classifications remain valid and relevant, and that operator training and certification will align.

**. . . Continued on Page 11**

Home > CRM > Test WD Facility

**TEST WD FACILITY** Requires Operator Edit Organization Action

ADDRESS: 78 4th Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada v0v0v0v  
 PHONE (3): 463-988-4465

**ORGANIZATION**  
 Add Classification  
**Request Re-classification**  
 Apply to become a Training Organization

**RELATIONSHIPS**  
 Add a Relationship

**ACCOUNT**  
 Service Order  
 Billing Preference

**ACTIVITY**  
 Log Interaction  
 Create Task  
 Create Note  
 Attach File

PROFILE RELATIONSHIPS ACCOUNT

IS FIRST NATION  
 No

Facility Facility Details **Classifications**

CLASSIFICATION #	GRANTED DATE	EXPIRY DATE	CLASS. TYPE	CLASS. LEVEL	STATUS
104377	12-02-2019	12-02-2024	WD	I	Active
100087	21-08-2017	11-02-2019	WD	I	Classification Expired
100098	23-08-2012	23-08-2019	WD	IV	Classification Expired

**What is Pre-Classification?**

The EOCP offers pre-classification for new facilities which are in the design phase, or for existing facilities undergoing major upgrades. Pre-classification is done using facility classification models and an interview with either the chief operator or design engineer to understand how the new or upgraded facility will be classified.

If you are involved in the design of a new facility or system, it can be helpful to understand what the classification will be at the time of commissioning, so that the community can ensure there is certified operator in place with the right certifications. If you are completing upgrades at your existing facility or system, it is also helpful to know if your operators will require further training.

If you are involved in the design of a new facility or system, the pre-classification exercise can help with selecting a preferred method of treatment which aligns with the needs of the community. For example, a small remote community may not be able to support having a level 3 or 4 certified operator. The pre-classification form will aide in selecting specific treatment /distribution/collection options which will result in a lower classification if that is a desired outcome.

At any point during the design stage, before the new or upgraded facility is commissioned, contact the EOCP to arrange a pre-classification interview. The cost to pre-classify a facility or system is \$50+GST. Pre-classification can be done for water treatment, water distribution, wastewater treatment and wastewater collection. Once complete, the EOCP will issue an official letter stating the facility classification upon commissioning, provided that there are no significant changes during construction and commissioning.

EOCP staff members are available and happy to answer any questions you may have about any of the classification processes. Please feel free to reach out at any time. For general enquiries please contact [eoep@eoep.ca](mailto:eoep@eoep.ca). For technical inquiries related to classification, please contact Jenni Green [jgreen@eoep.ca](mailto:jgreen@eoep.ca)

# Baby Announcements



Denny Huang, his wife Andrea, and their two children welcomed baby Keira on January 31st, 2019.

Congratulations!

Justin Gu (right) and family recently celebrated their daughters 100th day.

Congrats!



Casey Neathway and his family welcomed Elyse Katherine Louise, born April 2, 2020 at 1:01 am weighing in at 6lbs15oz.

Congrats!



Zachary Der and his family welcomed baby Ryker on March 16, 2020.

Congrats!

Big Brother Logan is now 18 months, we missed our chance to highlight his birth but a Congratulations none-the-less!



# Baby Announcements



Kim Porter and her husband, Sean, welcomed baby boy #2 on March 15th, 2020 at 10:57a.m. Owen Marcus Porter weighed in at 8lbs 6oz.

Congrats!

A few slightly to very delayed baby announcements. Never too late to enjoy some good news!

Sylvia Wong Adams and her husband welcomed baby John Skye ("Skye") on August 3rd, 2019 at 7:14a.m. He weighed in at 7lbs 4oz and was 20 inches long. Skye is almost 9 months now!

Congrats!



Janelle Rimell and her husband welcomed Keirin Rimell on April 13, 2019. She was 6lbs and 12oz. Keirin is already a year old!

Congratulations!

Stacey Sowa, her wife, Sarah, and Big Brother Bennett welcomed Nathan Steven on December 17th, 2018. Nathan is 16 months old already.

Congrats!

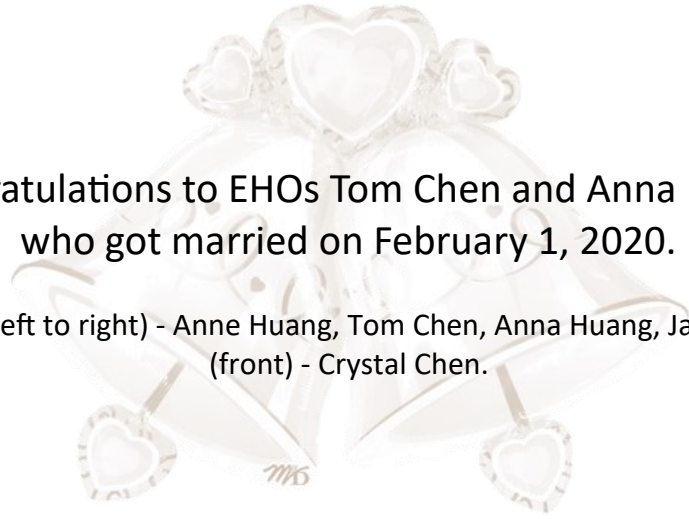


# Wedding Announcement



Congratulations to EHOs Tom Chen and Anna Huang who got married on February 1, 2020.

(back—left to right) - Anne Huang, Tom Chen, Anna Huang, Jack Chen,  
(front) - Crystal Chen.



## EOCP TRADESHOW AND CONFERENCE

# Registration Is Live!

<https://tinyurl.com/y59b46p9>

### 2018 CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

“Great job, especially for a first conference! As a speaker I found the experience very professional, well organised and useful. It was an excellent opportunity to meet operators in BC and learn from them.”

- Presenter

“The conference was well organized and thought out. Can't wait for the 2020 conference.”

- Conference Delegate

“You guys raised the bar - this was an excellent tradeshow. We will be back!”

- Vendor

“Very well organized and structured! Kudos to all the EOCP staff and volunteers!”

- Conference Delegate

WATER

TRANSPORT

LEADERSHIP

WASTEWATER

14-16 SEPTEMBER 2020 | VANCOUVER MARRIOTT PINNACLE

# Retirement—John D. Hillis



John (left) and Dwayne Stroh (right) after a long flight to Taipei, Taiwan.

worked a 3 year term with Upper Island Central Coast Community Health Services Society. This brought him to a fork in the road where John parted way with government she-nanigans and entered private practice. . .the true Dark Side...as an onsite wastewater practitioner. Outlasting his previous three EHO jobs, John spent 14 years in private industry. However, the golden allure of Vancouver Island Health Authority's environmental public health program drew John back in where he's spent the last 12 years as an EHO.

Already fairly settled in to retired life, John has spent some time travelling in Thailand with co-retiree Dwayne Stroh and in Arizona to meet up with another co-retiree, Gary Anderson.

He bids us adieu with the thought provoking proverb "When policy fails, think."

Best of luck in your retirement, John. Oh, happy day!

Stacey Sowa  
Editor

John Hillis says farewell to his career in Environmental Health. John started his career with the City of Winnipeg in 1984, where he stayed for three cold years. During this time, specifically in March 1986, John started the CIPHI MB Newsletter, The Placard; the MB newsletter is still going strong today. He even received recognition over 20 years later when Andreas Oertel gave him a shout-out for being the founding father of the newsletter in the Winter 2009 Edition.

Following his time in Manitoba, John worked with Niagara Region Public Health in Ontario for another 3 year stint. After that, he made his way all the way to the West Coast to start his long tenure on Vancouver Island. In the early 90s, John

Winter 2009  
CIPHI/Manitoba  
Volume 5, Issue 3

# The Placard

The Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors  
— Manitoba Branch —

## Happy Winter: It's Definitely Here Now

Normally we like to have seasonally appropriate photos on the front page. But heck, it's been so unseasonably warm (until recently), we thought we'd go with something a little less wintery this time. And I'm sure that in another month we'll all have had enough of the cold and the white stuff anyway.

On behalf of all the staff here at Placard HQ, I apologize for somehow skipping the Fall Edition. However, we're eager to make up for the oversight by making this issue extra special.

Thanks again to the 2009 AEC organizers who made the three-day fall conference an outstanding experience. PHIs leaving the event indicated it was informative, motivating and a lot of fun.

The Manitoba Branch sincerely appreciates the continued support of sponsors, exhibitors, and contributors. Without your assistance we could not succeed. Thank you.

A special congratulations to Jim Drew and Don Kasianchuk on their retirements (please see pages 4 and 26 for more).

And remember to send me an e-mail if you have photographs, suggestions or ideas for future newsletters.

Andreas Oertel, Editor  
andreas.oertel@gov.mb.ca

### Who started The Placard, anyway?

Good question. Well, it was way back in March 1986, when John Hillis began publishing The Placard.

There were earlier "Manitoba Branch Newsletters" going as far back as 1973, but it was John who saw a need to re-connect Federal, City, and Provincial PHIs with a newsletter after the previous versions stopped in 1983.

As editor and publisher, John was also responsible for contacting Alex Cross and Eben Officer, and for conducting the interview that appeared in our last issue (originally printed in 1986).

John is clearly enjoying his retirement (thanks for the photo, Tim Roark) and is now a member of the **Tyee Club** — anyone who has caught a salmon of 35 pounds or more.

On behalf of all Manitoba PHIs, thanks for an excellent start, John.

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NEXT ISSUE: SPRING 2010

**HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOUR  
EPH COLLEAGUES?**

**HAVE AN IDEA FOR A RECURRING SEGMENT IN THE BC PAGE?**

**HAVE A COMPLAINT WITH SOMETHING YOU'VE READ?**

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR THOUGHTS, IDEAS, COMMENTS, OR QUESTIONS TO**

**[BCPAGEEDITOR@CIPHI.BC.CA](mailto:BCPAGEEDITOR@CIPHI.BC.CA)**

Are you furthering your education and looking for extra funding to support your endeavour?

The Health Officers Council of BC has two bursary opportunities that support individuals studying in public health related fields. The Isabel Loucks Foster Public Health Bursary Fund and the BC Associated Boards of Health, Dr. Ken Benson Memorial Bursaries are both geared towards public and community health disciplines.

The deadline for applications is **August 30, 2020**. Go take a look:

[Health Officers Council of BC Bursaries](#)

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Courtesy of CIPHI MB Branch—thanks, Mike!



## In Memoriam— Patrick Fan



Patrick Cho Hing Fan was born in Hong Kong on September 4th, 1945. He graduated from Munsang College in 1965 and then taught in Hong Kong for three years. In 1968 he decided to move to Vancouver, Canada and registered for the Public Health Inspection Program at BCIT. In 1970 Patrick graduated with a Diploma of Technology and was awarded his CPHI(C). A short time later Patrick moved to Winnipeg where he attended the University of Manitoba and received his degree in City Planning in 1973. He then moved back to BC in 1974 and started work as a Public Health Inspector with the South Okanagan Health Unit in Penticton. On a trip to Vancouver Patrick attended a BBQ in Richmond and met a very special young lady, Lan Bor Wong who was teaching in Mission. In 1976 he transferred to the Central Fraser Health Unit based in Maple Ridge (not far from Mission) and they were married on December 19, 1976. Patrick and Lan Bor have two sons Allen born on January 30, 1978 and Ian on October 17, 1979.

With land development in the Fraser Valley being a very large part of the work of Health Inspectors located there, Patrick soon became extremely interested in and knowledgeable regarding on-site sewage disposal installations and land development. He took additional university courses and training regarding soils, drainage and advanced onsite system design. Soon he knew more about the design and installation of standard and advanced sewage systems than most engineers working in this field. Patrick was also a talented artist and won competitions for new logos he designed for the Central Fraser Valley Health Unit and the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada.

After over 30 years as a PHI, Patrick retired from the Health Region in 2005 and established Fan Consulting, ROWP(PL.) as a “Wastewater and Environmental Health Consultant”. Between designing high tech on-site systems throughout Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley, Patrick and Lan Bor spent much of the next 15 years travelling the world.

Patrick passed away on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. A Celebration of Life was held at Glenhaven Memorial Chapel in Vancouver on February 22. The Chapel was filled with family plus many friends and colleagues who will dearly miss him and his great smile.



Tim Roark  
BC Branch Historian

Many thanks to Mrs. Lan Bor Fan and son Allen for all the information about our colleague and good friend, Patrick.

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## Editorial Policy

The objective of this newsletter is to keep the members of the BC Branch and other colleagues informed of the local and national events that are of interest and importance to them.

The views, comments, or positions of the BC Page are those of the Editorial Team or the author and do not necessarily reflect those of either the BC Branch or the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit material submitted, solicited or unsolicited, for brevity, clarity, and grammatical accuracy.

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